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# NEWSLETTER

Witches International Craft Associates

WITCHCRAFT MAGAZINE

Witches Liberation Movement

## House of Hermetic

8906 Melrose Ave., L.A., Cal., 90069  
"RUNYON REFUTED"

Dear Leo:

As to WICA #18 Poke Runyon doth protest too much!!! The two people who came to me with story are far from "Sunset Strip" people! The lady is making quite a name for herself in a professional career. The man has an excellent position with a conservative firm. I've known these people for many years. Of course the Official Mensa News Release advertised a lecture on Ceremonial Magick as did the O.T.A. circular. I don't believe it started as a put-down of the Craft. However, if there was or is no prejudice on the part of C. R. RUNYON, why did he refuse to let them tape the lecture on their cassette? When they asked him for permission he noticed the Pentagonagram on the woman and said "Oh, you're Wicca?" When she said "yes" he told her "Nothing doing, none of your kind are going to get anything from us to use!" Those may not be his exact words but are close enough. There was no mistaking his attitude. Also, we resent the repeated phrase he used "Fags and witches need not apply for membership," I don't willingly look for trouble, nor do I enjoy arguing, so I asked you not to use my name. However, after reading WICA #18 I find Runyon's letter a little nauseating! If you care to use this letter with my name please do so. Blessed Be.

(Signed)

Eleanor V. Person

## FROM DRACULA TO "DRACHLEFF!!!"

About 3 weeks before my WICA #19 Owen Rachleff visited WARLOCK SHOP in Brooklyn. He took notes for an hour, listened to conversations, finally was told "Get out. You're a spy" by owner. Later Herman Slater recognized his photo on back of Rachleff's book. He was described as "Looking like Dracula!" He came in there again, if report from one of the salesmen is correct, asking for literature on the FRIENDS OF THE CRAFT seminar at FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH. We are looking forward to seeing him or some of his spies. And we will know who they are, if they don't identify themselves, by their hostile questions at end of talk. New York University is a tax-supported public Institution that has a right to teach courses on "Comparative Religion." IT HAS NO RIGHT TO TEACH RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION OR BIGOTRY. Our Attorneys will file suit against them. Owen Rachleff is NOT qualified, academically or otherwise, to teach a "debunking" course on Witchcraft. Our objection is not to his "debunking" Christian-defined "Witchcraft" which deserves it, but his lumping of all true Witches...Old Religionists...into the same "bag." The Constitutional SEPARATION OF CHURCH & STATE applies here. Since Mr. Rachleff is not a Witch, has NOT been (and never will be) Initiated into the Old Religion, has never attended a genuine coven of Witches his course is nothing but hearsay, "book learning" (check the sources) and vicious Anti-Wicca propaganda. The same law that banned Prayer in Public Schools is the same law that will ban the likes of Rachleff from teaching religious bigotry at New York University.



STRAIGHT TALK TV SHOW, hosted by Elinor Guggenheim & Phyllis Haynes, was shown on Channel 9, 11 A.M. Halloween, Oct. 31st. Ray Buckland was on first, showed various slides, spoke on Craft History. I had 2nd segment, talked about Sicilian Craft, my living in Morocco, searching for Cult of the Two Horned God, visit to Sicily in 1964, and doing brief analysis of Elinor Guggenheim's handwriting. She said "It's all true," Then Buckland and I appeared together, answering various questions. It was a very good show and we were treated with intelligence and respect. Elinor is White and Phyllis is Black. Former is active in Women's Liberation and was most interested in the co-equal, sometimes superior status, of women in the Craft. A program like this gave us a chance to present the truth to the public without attack or rude interruptions. Too bad this local NYC show isn't syndicated.

WITCHES: Investigating An Ancient Religion, T. C. Lethbridge. This is one of the best books on the Old Religion, MUST reading for all serious students., really "tells it like it is." Much Craft Lore, names of ancient Gods & Goddesses, history, theology, symbolism, archaeology, origins etc. If you haven't this book your Craft Library and Lore is incomplete. From WICA \$3.14 HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

CRAFT COURTESY INITIATIONS: Hermes of the New York Coven of Traditionalist Witches was Initiated into 3rd degree by a full coven of masked Continental Witches. On the way to the Initiation site he was blindfolded. These Witches know him but he doesn't know them. This was done as a Craft Courtesy since I was an Honorary Elder in his own coven and made official on Samhain. Hermes works actively in the Craft & holds circles every Saturday night. Next issue (#2) of WITCHCRAFT DIGEST features his GOD & GODDESS IN DAISY FIELDS as its Cover. Furthermore, we believe that each Witch proceeds at a different rate of speed and those who have initiative shouldn't be held back. Then too, Craft Communications with the media, the public, and Libertarian Churches is essential for the growth of the Old Religion. Every Witch has the right to "go public" or remain incognito depending on his / her own circumstances. We need both. We will work with those who work with us. As to the others? They eliminate themselves. There's always the question: What have YOU done for the Craft?

CRAFTINGS: Dr. M. will be writing new column for GNOSTICA NEWS called "The Wicca-Basket.".....WITCH BLOOD by Patricia Crowther and SEX & THE SINGLE PSYCHIC by Dr. M. are "up in the air." Publisher in process of selling company. Will report more on this when I have all the FACTS.....Because of WICA #19 BEYOND REALITY Editor wrote to do story on WICA .....Herman Slater of Brooklyn's WARLOCK SHOP was interviewed on CBS' John Bartholemew Tucker TV show. Also appeared in a Documentary newsreel plus getting many local write-ups..... WITCHCRAFT DIGEST NO. #2 has been delayed because of the many responsibilities and literary assignments, Craft activities, etc. of your Editor. It will DEFINITELY be ready by or before YULE. NO. #2 contains "Who's A Witch?" by Dr. M., "Origin Of The May Day Celebrations" by Patricia Crowther (author of WITCHES SPEAK, \$3.14), "Tools Of The Craft" by Deric James, Ed. of England's INSIGHT; "A Handful Of Moonbeams" by Bonnie Sherlock, "Matsu: Goddess Of The Sea" by Chen Ying-chieh, etc.etc. Plus RARE PHOTO OF "MADDALENA" C. G. IELAND's WITCH CONFIDANTE, Reserve copy: \$1.20... WITCHMAS-YULE CARDS, OLD WITCH GAZING AT YULE TREE, 25¢ @ or 6 for \$1.00. UNIQUE. RUSH!

THE NEW YORK COVEN OF WELSH TRADITIONALIST WITCHES held their Samhain Sabbat on Sat. Oct. 28 with a full coven. Dr. Martello was officially initiated as a 3rd degree Elder. After the beautiful ceremony Witches and their friends celebrated into the wee morning hours. Everyone brought wine and food, as in Olden Days. There was Witches' Round Dancing, a burning cauldron, high happy loving vibrations. High Priest Hermes & High Priestess Vivienne conducted the circle with love and dignity....serious, but not somber.... holy, but not heavy....my own 3rd degree Elder initiation culminating in performing the Symbolic Great Rite.....CONTINENTAL SICILIAN covens always congregate on the exact Hallow's Night. Because of all the festivities I had little sleep for 4 days and each circle RECHARGED MY PSYCHIC BATTERIES. The Horned God now reigns over the Winter months. The Goddess will return in Spring again. Those who truly believe are always protected.

WITCHES LIBERATION & PRACTICAL GUIDE TO JOINING A COVEN, Dr. Martello. New book reprints articles from OCCULT MAGAZINE. Many tried to get back issues & found them unavailable. Also includes "Modern Witchcraft: Worldwide Underground Religion" and "Is The Cat Supernatural." LIMITED EDITION: Only \$2.14 per copy ....CURSES IN VERSES in 3rd printing. Attractive new Horned God cover. Price is \$1.25 per copy including postage.



BARRY FARBER RADIO SHOW: Halloween, Oct. 31st. His guests were Shawn Robbins, self-described "witch.," Josie Johnson, starring in movie STIGMA on V.D., Alexander Rose, author of "Memoirs Of A Heterosexual," a representative from Sam Weiser Bookstore called "Ioa! I think, Rod Chase Astrologer-Writer; Dellie Doffman, a psychic palmist. During the show Farber said heated ly-defensively "Owen Rachleff is one of my HEROES!" He was sent WICA #19. So naturally DIDN'T contact me. Rod Chase said re Rachleff "I finished him off in my column in CAVALIER MAGAZINE." Farber: "Rachleff can finish all of you off." Chase: "His book is full of inaccuracies. One should first investigate a subject thoroughly before attacking." Chase & the Weiser representative were the most articulate. Shawn Robbins' contribution was "Witches believe in GOD and the Universe!" Calls herself "Official Witch of New York" title used for promotion of a public show called "Satan's Saturday" by Timothy Green Beckley, who's switched from UFO promotions to "Witchcraft." On circulars "Witch Hazel" was listed as "M.C." Shawn Robbins was drawn into a "prove it" power play as to her claims of "Witch" and "psychic power." Dellie Doffman attempted to read Alex Rose's palm who was negative and said she was deadwrong.

BARRY FARBER HAS NEVER HAD A GENUINE WITCH ON HIS PROGRAM AND DOESN'T DARE. My name of course was studiously NOT mentioned. I defy Barry Farber and Owen Rachleff to debate me on one single issue: WITCHCRAFT, THE OLD RELIGION. If Rachleff is one of his "heroes", someone we consider a theological Hitler, then he must be a spiritual Goebbels! Farber said! "I give you Owen Rachleff and warn you to get out of his way." Well, Mr. Farber, it just so happens that Rachleff GOT OUT OF MY WAY. HE REFUSED TO APPEAR WITH ME ON THE "STRAIGHT TALK" TV SHOW. He demanded a high fee. He had President of NYU call and threatened to "sue" and what not. In fact he did precisely what I wanted him to do: ELIMINATE HIMSELF! We never mentioned him once. We didn't want the show polluted by his prejudicial poison. The trick of these pseudo-liberal radio hosts like Farber is to get people who can be easily knocked down, to detour any reference to RELIGION by going into "the powers of a Witch" and then demanding from these pseudo-witches to "prove it." Of course they can't. Farber is one of those flag-waving Democracy-defending "good ole U.S.A." freedom-loving types whose first trauma probably was World War II! And like most such types "freedom" stops at the door of their own prejudices. About 6 years ago I did a show with Farber on my book HOW TO PREVENT PSYCHIC BLACKMAIL. The show was stacked against me: Opposing my views were a Fundamentalist Evangelist, A Jewish Rabbi, a Protestant Minister, and another one of those self-dubbed "debunkers" whose hobby is stage magic. I was still underground as a Witch then. And throughout my book and this program I stressed REASON...RATIONALITY...ONE'S OWN MIND AS THE ONLY WEAPON FOR SURVIVAL. I still do. But with the stereotyped image of a Witch being an irrational nincompoop I had enough trouble presenting my own unpopular views on RATIONAL SELF INTEREST without the further "stigma" of "Witch" attached to them. They would have loved nothing better: Automatically this would have undermined anything I said, no matter how valid, rational or irrefutable.

ALEXANDER ROSE and I appeared together over 10 yrs. ago on the "PLAY YOUR HUNCH" TV show hosted by Merv Griffin. I impersonated him. Contestants had to guess which of 3 impersonators was the "real Rose" (which by any other name.....SMELLS!). He's a very short, about 5'1" or 4' 2" man, skinny, and I found him & his book singularly unimpressive. He prides himself on his marriage of over 30 or 40 years to the same woman. I always thought: What other woman would have him? As to his "Memoirs Of A Heterosexual" who cares? When Edgar Cayce was mentioned Rose said "Balderdash!" Farber, Rachleff, Rose and their ilk are still brainwashed Christian agents of the Inquisitional Church. They absolutely REFUSE to deal with THE OLD RELIGION, to examine their own assumptions and premises, to deal honestly with the subject. Theologically they can be compared to the white man who refuses to recognize the BLACK MAN. They prefer to call him "boy" and retain their image of him as a shuffling, irresponsible, "he's got rhythm" not-too-bright subhuman. And the only ones they would permit a hearing to were these types who re-inforced their own images. Now that all other minorities are claiming their dignity, their rights, Witches are the "new niggers" -- self-deluded, irrational, phony, or fraudulent Christian stereotypes -- sometime "cute" and "fun" but not to be taken seriously. So these super pseudo Liberal radio-TV hosts only have on those easily-demolished fake Witches.



**OCCULT INFORMATION SERVICES BLASTED BY FATE MAGAZINE'S BOOK COLUMN EDITOR: David Techter.** WICA thanks him & FATE MAGAZINE to reprint from their Dec.'72 issue. I want to remind all of you that O.I.S. was recommended by CRYSTAL WELL Editor who has never reciprocated our mention and that the O.I.S. listing also deliberately excluded us. Wonder why? They're just so buddy-buddy. In radio and TV this used to be called "payola." Take with a grain of SALT such recommendations. WICA #17 promised a dossier on O.I.S. However, DAVID TECHTER'S REVIEW IN FATE REALLY SAYS IT ALL:

**THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND**  
THE ABOVE seven publications were called to my attention by still another incredible publication, the so-called *Threefold Listing* issued by Occult Information Services (P.O. Box 313, Islip, N.Y. 11751). Singling out this overly-ambitious organization probably is unfair—but I cannot help thinking of it as the epitome of the bumbling amateurishness that is pervading the psychic-occult field. Almost daily the FATE office is bombarded with announcements of "New Age" conferences or "Aquarian" courses. I would be delighted by all this interest in the metaphysical field if only I hadn't encountered some of the "world-renowned" authorities involved. When the president of an occult group twice in a public lecture uses "premonition" when he means "apparition" and when an instructor in a course in "parapsychology" admits never having heard of the Society for Psychical Research... words fail me! I can understand why academic parapsychologists hide behind laboratory doors rather than endure the general level of enthusiastic incompetence that masquerades as occult wisdom.

This *Threefold Listing* wouldn't irritate me so much if it didn't claim to be authoritative and if it were distributed free. Occult Information Services imprudently sent me a free copy for review; otherwise I would be as angry as the FATE reader who complained he wanted his \$3.00 refunded. This reader really was being too kind when he suggested that the information all could have been collected from the advertisements and columns in FATE because, in fact, the perpetrators of this 13-page mimeographed compilation appear to be totally ignorant of my New Books column for they faithfully omit nearly every periodical I have described over the last several years. Perhaps they have something against the technical parapsychology publications (although they list their publishers among the organizations).

But as puzzling as the omissions are some of the inclusions in their periodicals list. Perhaps we cannot blame the list compilers for the demise of some of the publications they include but I fail to see that others listed have any occult or psychic angle whatsoever. For example, *The Phoenix* is a slicker-than-average underground newspaper totally lacking in psychic interest. Several of the publications on the list are put out by American Indian activists ("red power"). They may be espousing a worthy cause but they are scarcely occult. Their only possible relevance

for FATE readers is the inclusion of many hard-to-find volumes on Indian religion in the mail-order book service of *Akwesasne Notes* (Mohawk Nation via Roosevelttown, N.Y. 13683).

#### GETTING ORGANIZED

**EVEN MORE** unbelievable is the list of organizations allegedly "as complete, current and accurate as was possible at press time." The compilers could not have omitted more efficiently most of the important psychic organizations if this had been their intent—and the few they (inadvertently) included are listed under addresses that are no longer current. This might be excusable if the psychic organizations weren't listed already in the initial issue of *Parapsychology Review*. But since this is one of the many publications they omitted the editors most likely never heard of this list. One would think that the "group of experts who have devoted many years to the gathering of occult information" would be aware of the basic resources within the psychic field. But it is the history of this field that everyone who tries to compile such a directory seems totally ignorant of anything ever done before. Just last week we had an inquiry from yet another outfit seeking to compile "an annotated bibliography (sic) of all organizations dealing with occult phenomena." With such a beginning I doubt this new list will be an improvement over that in *Threefold Listing*.

**CRAFTINGS:** Those of us who have gone public are sad and appalled by the many people who still regard a Witch in Christian terms, who want enemies hexed, spells, & what not. Then there are those who try to join a coven hoping to "expose" it. These people are pathological, often wearing a mask of "rationality." They're still fighting their own unresolved subconscious "devils" still need a scapegoat for their own unfulfilled lives. In Craft terms a SPELL is the same as PRAYER in other religions. Unlike other religions you can be

an ACTIVE participant rather than just a PASSIVE observer. I don't blame those of you who are forced to stay underground. I do condemn those who do remain incognito and use this as a means of not only NOT supporting my work but who insidiously try to undermine it. Thus our fight is on two fronts: The Establishment that has to be educated and, when necessary, confronted, and those Cowardly Crafters whose fear has paralyzed them into inertia and "Deception As A Way Of Life"..  
I want to thank all Crafters, Liberation & Libertarian groups, SONS OF SICILY, DAUGHTERS OF DEMETER, NEW YORK CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, etc. who have supported me in my Religious Freedom Fight.....  
RADIO & TV stations who discriminate: We will file a suit with the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (FCC) to have their Renewal Licenses REFUSED based on Religious Discrimination. Those Radio-TV stations who give free time to the likes of Billy Graham or any other minister that falsely attacks the Old Religion, who slander us by calling us Devil Worshipers or "evil" will be forced to grant us EQUAL TIME.

#### UNENCHANTED

Owen S. Rachleff, who wrote "He Haunts Witches" [Sept. 16], is typical of the believer-betrayed. Having learned too early that not only is there no Santa Claus, but no fairy godmother either, he has never quite recovered from the trauma. He now feels compelled to attack those who, in believing in something outside the causality of a robot universe, remind him too acutely of his own early betrayal. My guess is that Rachleff sincerely wants to be turned into a frog.

Otto Mandarin  
San Francisco

OCT. 7-13, '72

TV GUIDE A-9

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